

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/050,180 Examiner	TSUNG-LIN, SHEN Art Unit
	Gregory J. Strimbu	3634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the amendment of 3/10/04 and the tele. int. of 5/25/04.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 13-18 and 20-24.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All
 - b) Some*
 - c) None
 of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 1/7/04.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 5/25/04 .
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Bruce H. Troxell on May 24, 2004.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the abstract:

line 5, changed "moves" to --rod is moved--

line 8, changed "rods" to --rod--

line 10, changed "rods" to --rod--

line 11, deleted "super"

In the claims:

claim 13,

line 4, inserted --linearly-- following "for"

line 9, inserted --and the first piston rods-- following "stems"

line 19, changed "with" to --to a longitudinal axis of--

claim 14,

changed lines 3-4 to --mounting block, the mounting blocks are connected with the door, a first end of each of the sliding blocks is pivotally connected to the connecting rod by a respective pivot element, each of the pivot--

line 5, changed "axis" to --elements--

changed lines 6-7 to --second end of each of the sliding blocks is pivotally connected to a respective one of the mounting blocks, and each support block is pivotally connected to a middle of a respective one of the sliding blocks and the support --

claim 15,

line 2, changed "pivoting with" to --supporting--

changed claim 17 to

--17. The apparatus according to claim 13, further comprising an additional second piston rod and an additional transmitting rod, the additional transmitting rod is pivotally connected between an additional connecting rod and the plurality of levers, the additional transmitting rod is pivotally connected to a middle of the additional connecting rod.--

claim 18,

line 13, changed the period to --and;

the shell has a guide plate fixedly mounted thereto, the guide stem and the second piston rod are inserted through the guide plate.--

canceled claim 19

claim 20,

line 3, inserted --each of-- following "rod,"
changed lines 4-7 to --blocks is mounted on the door, a first end of each of the sliding blocks is pivotally connected to the connecting rod by a respective pivot element, a second end of each of the sliding blocks is pivotally connected to a respective one of the mounting blocks, each support block is pivotally connected to a middle of a respective one of the slide blocks and the support frame.--

claim 21,

line 2, inserted --the-- following "for" and changed "axis at the first" to --elements--

line 3, deleted "end of the sliding block"

changed claim 24 to

--24. The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the sealing mechanism includes a lever and two transmitting rods, one of the two transmitting rods is pivotally connected between the lever and a middle of the connecting rod.--

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record, absent applicant's own disclosure, fails to teach the entire combination of elements set forth in the claimed invention. Specifically, the prior art of record fails to teach an apparatus for sealing a vacuum chamber comprising a flat shell having an opening, a door movably located in the flat shell, an elevating mechanism located on the flat shell for moving the door and the guide stem fixedly connecting with the frame elevator and the support frame, the second stroke cylinder mounted in the frame elevator, the second stroke cylinder having a second piston rod that moves parallel to the first rods and the shell has a guide plate fixedly mounted thereto, the guide stem and the second piston rod are inserted through the guide plate. See claim 18, lines 1-5 and 10-13.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Strimbu whose telephone number is 703-305-3979. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on 703-308-2486. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Gregory J. Strimbu
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3634
May 25, 2004